

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,

BUREAU OF THE MINT,

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 13, 1890.

The Superintendent, U. S. Mint,

Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

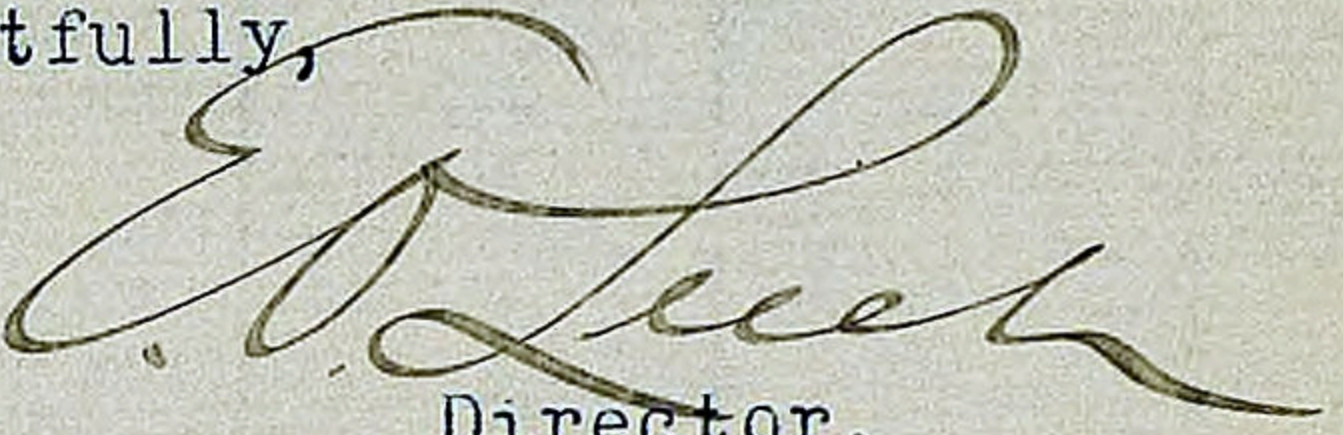
Acknowledging the receipt of your favor of the 11th inst, relative to the cost of the bronze copies of the Joseph Francis medal, it seems to me that the price you state, \$9.00 is too high.

Mr. Francis has ^{asked} ~~asked~~ for a larger number of these bronze copies than I feel authorized to give him. I had decided to give him five and to retain one in this bureau, but as yet the bronze copies ordered have not been received. Of course there will be no charge for these six. He wanted a great many more as he has requests from many distinguished societies for them, but I informed him that aside from the five which I proposed ~~to~~ give him for nothing, the other copies would have to be procured from the mint at such price as we should decide upon. I had not thought that they would cost any such amount as \$9.00, and while I am not in a position to judge of the actual cost to the Government of striking such a medal, aside from the cost of the metal, which is insignificant, it would seem as if it should not approach such a figure as \$9.00. We are not so anxious to make a profit on this business of the manufacture of medals as we are to furnish copies to numismatic and other societies at as low a price as the cost to our service will justify.

As you are in a position to be better informed, both from your experience as Coiner and from the advice of your officers, as to the actual cost of striking such a medal in bronze, I must necessarily leave the price of this medal very much to your judgement, but unless the actual cost approximates so large a price as \$9.00 I would prefer that the price of the bronze copies be set at a lower figure.

In this connection I would say I am not sure whether any price lists ^{has} of medals ~~have~~ been published since you and I assumed the duties of our present offices; if not I would suggest that you prepare such list for my approval.

Very respectfully,



Director.

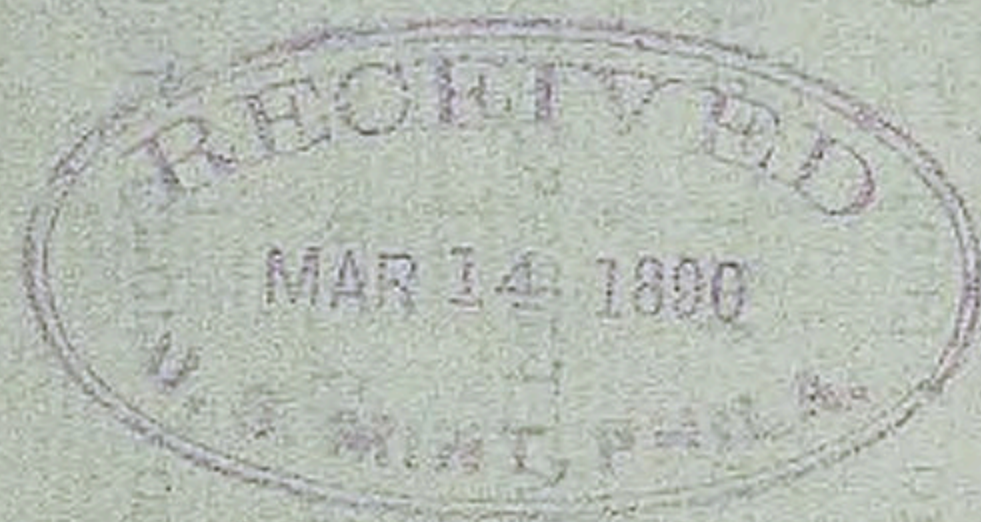
1342

RG104 E-1 Box 162

Treasury Department
Washington D.C.
March 13. 1890

E. O. Leech,
Director.

Relative to cost of
"Joseph Francis"
Medals - \$9.00 being
too high.



[Handwritten signature]

U. S. Treasury Department.

To Strike, annual, dip in acid
and dry six (6) bronze Joseph Francis
medals once, - 30 minutes

Repeat 50 operations

$$\begin{array}{r} 60 \overline{) 150.0} \\ \underline{25} \text{ hours.} \end{array}$$

Day 3 days
wages of man \$9

Charcoal

$$\begin{array}{r} \$ 27.00 \end{array}$$

$$.48$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 27.48 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} \$ 45.7 \end{array}$$

cost of one day

✓ 25

[Abstract:] Relative to cost of "Joseph Francis" medals - \$9.00 being too high.

Treasury Department,
Bureau of the Mint,
Washington, D.C., March 13, 1890

The Superintendent, U.S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Acknowledging the receipt of your favor of the 11th inst, relative to the cost of the bronze copies of the Joseph Francis medal, it seems to me that the price you state, \$9.00 is too high.

Mr. Francis has asked for a larger number of these bronze copies than I feel authorized to give him. I had decided to give him five and to retain one in this bureau, but as yet the bronze copies ordered have not been received. Of course there will be no charge for these six. He wanted a great many more as he has requests from many distinguished societies for them, but I informed him that aside from the five which I propose to give him for nothing, the other copies would have to be procured from the mint at such price as we should decide upon. I had not thought that they would cost any such amount as \$9.00, and while I am not in a position to judge of the actual cost to the Government of striking such as a medal, aside from the cost of the metal, which is insignificant, it would seem as if it should not approach such a figure as \$9.00. We are not anxious to make a profit on this business of the manufacture of medals as we are to furnish copies to numismatic and other societies at as low a price as the cost to our service will justify.

As you are in a position to be better informed, both from your experience as Coiner and from the advice of your officers, as to the actual cost of striking such a medal in bronze, I must necessarily leave the price of this medal very much to your judgement, but unless the actual cost approximates so large a price as \$9.00 I would prefer that the price of the bronze copies be set at a lower figure.

In this connection I would say I am not sure whether any price list of medals has been published since you and I assumed the duties of our present offices; if not I would suggest that you prepare such list for my approval.

Very respectfully,
E.O. Leech
Director.

NARA RG104, Entry 1, Box 162

[Enclosed handwritten note:]

To strike, anneal, dip in acid and dry six (6) bronze Joseph Francis medals once – 30 minutes
Repeat 50 operations

60) 150.0
25 hours

Say 3 days

Wages of more \$9

\$27.00

Charcoal .48

6) 27.48

~~\$4.57~~ cost of one medal